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THE RURAL DISTRICT OF ALTON

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

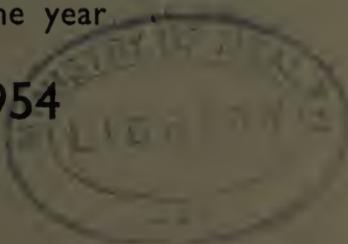
Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for the year

1954





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# THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ALTON

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*Chairman of the Council*—Capt H. J. M. Holmes\*

*Vice-Chairman* —W. H. Crispe, Esq.

## Public Health Committee

*Chairman of Committee* —A. E. Guy, Esq.\*

*Vice-Chairman* —E. H. Lucas, Esq.

### *Members*—

Lady Bonham-Carter\*

W. H. Ings, Esq.

W. Brock, Esq.

E. H. Lucas, Esq.

Mrs. E. J. Champney

L. King, Esq., O.B.E.

W. H. Crispe, Esq.\*

R. E. B. Meade-King, Esq.

Commander L. Derek-Jones

Major A. E. Mentzel, M.B.E.

Capt. H. J. M. Holmes

Mrs. C. P. Thomson-Glover

A. B. Wright, Esq.

\*Rural District Representatives on the Alton Joint Slaughterhouse Committee

### *Public Health Department Staff*—

*Medical Officer of Health*—

Randall Martin, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Building Surveyor*—

A. E. Bennett, C.R.S.I., A.M.Inst.B.E.

*Senior Additional Sanitary  
Inspector*—

J. H. Johnson, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector &  
Assistant Building Surveyor*—

A. L. Wesley, C.R.S.I., M.R.San.I.  
M.S.I.A.

*Clerks*—

W. E. Jones  
P. F. Mercer

# ALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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BARTON END,  
LENTEN STREET,  
ALTON, HANTS.  
August, 1955.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Alton Rural District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the vital statistics, the sanitary circumstances and the sanitary administration for the Rural District of Alton for the year 1954.

From the tables in the Report you will see that there has been no great change in the vital statistics of the District and that the area compares favourably with the country as a whole. There were no outbreaks of infectious diseases, the year being an inter-epidemic one as far as measles is concerned. It is pleasing to record that no cases of poliomyelitis, diphtheria or the intestinal diseases were notified, and that no deaths occurred from the common infectious diseases.

With regard to tuberculosis the number of notifications has dropped, particularly with regard to the number of cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis as compared with last year. There were, however, four deaths attributable to tuberculosis during the year. The Mass Miniature Radiography Survey held in May revealed only a small incidence of unsuspected tuberculosis in this area.

With regard to the sanitary circumstances of the District, the Department has been very active during the year as will be seen from the section of the Report dealing with this subject.

The Government de-controlled meat and livestock in July and it became the responsibility of this authority to ensure adequate slaughtering accommodation for traders. This was achieved by joint action with the Alton Urban District Council, a public slaughterhouse being provided, administered by a Joint Public Slaughterhouse Committee.

During the year various extensions to water supplies and sewerage schemes were completed and new controlled refuse tips were brought into use. The Alexandra Park tip was inspected by an officer from the Ministry during the year and a very satisfactory report was received.

As a result of the greatly increased powers and duties in connection with housing improvement programmes, by complete agreement and accord between the Departments concerned, the duties relating to scavenging, night soil collection and cesspool emptying, Bentley sewers, Bordon Public Convenience, street cleaning and cleaning bus shelters became the responsibility of the Engineer's Department. Thereafter, the Public Health, Sewerage and Water Committee were

re-named the Public Health Committee.

An important measure in preventive medicine came into force on 1st October. This District was an area included in The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) No. 2 Order, 1954. The only milk which can now be sold in the area must be either tuberculin tested or heat treated milk.

Throughout the year the relationship between this Department and other branches of the National Health Service in the District has been very satisfactory. The Immunisation and Vaccination statistics of the District show a satisfactory degree of immunity against diphtheria and smallpox. To this result the many busy general practitioners in the District have contributed considerably and my thanks are due to them.

I take once again this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the efficient and conscientious work of Mr. Bennett and every individual on the staff which throughout the year has led to the harmonious working of this Department.

(Signed) RANDALL MARTIN,

*Medical Officer of Health,  
Alton Rural District Council.*

## **STATISTICS OF THE AREA**

**As at 31st December, 1954**

Area, in acres .. . . . ..	65,526
Total estimated home population (including military) .. . . ..	24,690
Number of inhabited houses .. . . ..	6,190
Rateable value .. . . ..	£165,054
Estimated product of the penny rate ..	£700
1953-54	

### **Natural and Social Conditions of Area**

The Rural District of Alton consists of pleasant rolling and wooded countryside on the eastern limits of the County of Hampshire and abuts for short distances on the western boundaries of Surrey and Sussex. The rivers Wey and Rother arise from various sources in the District.

The mainstay of the populace is agricultural pursuits in which hop-growing figures largely. The District is divided into twenty-one civil parishes, of which the parish of Whitehill holds the military establishments at Bordon and Longmoor. These latter give employment to civilians in their immediate vicinity. The building trade and allied occupations give employment to many as the number of new houses built continues to grow. Several of the parishes have become popular residential areas, chief amongst them being the parishes of Grayshott and Headley, which in common with other villages still maintain their essential character.

The main communications in the Rural District are the London-Winchester, London-Portsmouth road and rail services.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births.

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Total Population		24480	22920	25330	25080	24690
Live Births	Male	193	218	200	209	215
Legitimate	Female	155	199	221	210	201
	Total	348	417	421	419	416
Illegitimate	Male	20	18	13	20	14
	Female	19	16	16	19	17
	Total	39	34	29	39	31
Total Live Births		387	451	450	458	447
Live Birth Rate per 1000 Total Pop.		15.8	19.7	17.8	18.3	18.1
England and Wales		15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2
Still Births	Male	3	2	6	3	6
Legitimate	Female	0	5	4	8	3
	Total	3	7	10	11	9
Illegitimate	Male	0	1	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	1	0	0	0
Total Still Births		3	8	10	11	9
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Births (Live and Still)		7.8	17.7	22.2	24.2	19.7

Comparability Factor is 1.16, so the adjusted Birth Rate for this District is 21.0 which is the figure for comparative purposes with England and Wales.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Deaths.

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
From all causes	Male	110	134	123	117	128
	Female	93	117	100	104	104
	Total	203	251	223	221	232
Death rate per 1000 total Pop.	8.3	10.9	8.8	8.8	9.4	
Average for England and Wales total population	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	

The Comparability Factor for this District is 1.03, allowance thus being made for local differences in the sex and age distribution of the population. The adjusted Death Rate for this area is therefore 9.7.

### **Maternal Mortality.**

There were no deaths attributable to this area during the year arising from pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

### **Infantile Mortality.**

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Deaths under 1 year of age (legitimate)	Male	8	12	3	2	8
	Female	5	5	2	3	4
Deaths under one year of age (illegitimate)	Male	1	0	0	0	0
	Female	1	0	1	1	0
	Totals	15	17	6	6	12
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births		38.7	37.7	13.3	13.3	26.8
England and Wales Rate per 1000 live births		29.8	29.6	27.6	26.8	25.5

### **Neo-Natal Mortality.**

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Number of Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age (legitimate)	Male	9*	8	2	2	1
	Female	4*	3	2	3	2
	Totals	13	11	4	5	3

\* Includes 1 (one) death of illegitimate baby.

Attention is drawn to the fact that these rates for the Rural District owing to the small numbers involved is not statistically significant and rate comparisons with other areas or earlier years is misleading.

## THE CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN

	Cause of Death	Post Mortem performed	Age at Death
1	Congenital heart disease Encephalocele .. .. ..	Yes	2 days
2	Congenital mitral endocarditis ..	Yes	1 week
3	Chronic intestinal obstruction Congenital atresia of small bowel	Yes	3 weeks
4	Intestinal obstruction Volvulus .. .. ..	Yes	1 month
5	Otitis media Gastro enteritis .. Pyloric stenosis .. .. ..	Yes	2 months
6	Acute hæmorrhagic confluent Bilateral broncho-pneumonia Gastritis .. .. ..	Yes	2 months
7	Pyloric stenosis Congenital Patent ductus arteriosus .. ..	Yes	2 months
8	Gastro enteritis .. .. ..		4 months
9	Manslaughter .. .. ..	Yes	5 months
10	Broncho-pneumonia .. Gastro enteritis .. .. ..	Yes	5 months
11	Reflex cardiac action associated with status lymphaticus precipitated by regurgitation of food ..	Yes	6 months
12	Hydrocephalus Congenital .. .. ..		9 months
13	Acute bilateral broncho-pneumonia Moderate gastritis .. ..	Yes	1 year 2 months
14	Œdema of lungs Acute laryngo-tracheitis .. ..		3 years.
15	Tuberculous meningitis .. ..		3 years
16	Cachexia Multiple secondary deposits .. Neuroblastoma bilateral adrenal involvement .. .. ..		4 years
17	Encephalitis Terminal broncho-pneumonia ..	Yes	4 years
18	Bilateral adrenal hæmorrhage Acute bacterial urinary infection Effects of tuberculous meningitis	Yes	5 years

**ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH**

	Diseases	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	3	0	3
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	0	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11	", lung, bronchus	9	0	9
12	", breast	0	4	4
13	", uterus	0	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	6	25
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	19	32
18	Coronary disease, angina	22	17	39
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	3	6
20	Other heart diseases	15	22	37
21	Other circulatory disease	5	9	14
22	Influenza	1	0	1
23	Pneumonia	3	3	6
24	Bronchitis	5	4	9
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	3	0	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	0	2
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	3	5
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	0	3
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	2	4	6
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	3	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
34	All other accidents	1	1	2
35	Suicide	3	1	4
36	Homicide and operations of war	1	0	1
All causes		128	104	232

THE SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

<i>Age</i>		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Under 1	..	..	8
1-9	..	..	5
10-19	..	..	1
20-29	..	..	4
30-39	..	..	3
40-49	..	..	1
50-59	..	..	15
60-69	..	..	26
70-79	..	..	39
80-89	..	..	20
90-99	..	..	5
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		128	104
			232

## COMMENTARY ON VITAL STATISTICS

### **Births.**

The number of live born children in the Rural District has remained fairly constant over the last four years. The birth rates are slightly above that for England and Wales as a whole.

Similarly the number of still births has been fairly steady over the same period.

### **Deaths.**

During 1954 eleven more deaths were recorded as compared with the previous year. The deaths of twelve infants under one year are recorded, which is twice as many as in 1953.

There were no deaths from the common infectious diseases. There were four deaths from tuberculosis, three of which were non-respiratory tuberculosis.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The majority of the deaths were caused by :—

Heart disease .. . . .	82
Cancer .. . . .	42
Vascular diseases of the brain ..	32

Total      156 or 67% of deaths

This figure was 65% in 1953. Attention is drawn to the fact that 57% of the deaths were of people aged 70 years or over.

The ages registered at death of the oldest inhabitants was a man aged 91 and two women aged 93.

### **PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

The following is an analysis of the infectious diseases which were notified during the year, with the four preceding years for comparison :—

Disease	Totals for				1954		
	1950	1951	1952	1953	M	F	Total
Scarlet Fever ..	29	17	15	26	7	4	11
Whooping Cough ..	57	106	69	115	35	40	75
Acute Poliomyelitis :							
(paralytic) ..	6	0	4	3	0	0	0
(non-paralytic) ..	}	381	233	329	81	63	144
Measles ..							
Diphtheria ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Pneumonia ..	9	17	10	14	14	12	26
Dysentery ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas ..	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Meningococcal infection	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Food Poisoning ..	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	1	1	2	0	1	1
<b>Totals ..</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>259</b>

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1954 was smaller than the previous year and so the year can be regarded as an inter-epidemic year. It was not until the last quarter that cases of infectious diseases began to re-appear and during that time 184 notifications were received.

### **Measles.**

All the cases of measles notified less one occurred during the last quarter. These cases occurred in the southern and western parts of the Rural District and affected chiefly the 1-9 year olds.

These children are living in the more densely populated part of the District where there is also more frequent change in population, hence probably the more rapid spread of the disease.

### **Whooping Cough.**

Seventy-five notifications of whooping cough were received, 50 cases being notified in the third quarter and 21 in the last quarter of the year. This was 6 more than in 1953.

The national incidence and mortality of whooping cough is as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1945	62,691	689
1946	92,936	808
1947	92,682	905
1948	146,410	748
1949	102,816	527
1950	157,781	394
1951	169,441	457
1952	114,869	184
1953	157,829	243

The rapid decline in the Death Rate in recent years is attributed to the treatment of cases with antibiotics and the newer drugs. However, more than half of the deaths occur in children under one year of age and of those dying under age 1, approximately one third are under six months. These figures, however, do not show the number of children who suffer permanent lung damage. Towards lowering the incidence and severity of attacks and hence the mortality and morbidity, discussions with the County Health Authority regarding the inception of a county wide immunisation scheme were held during the year and an immunisation scheme will be instituted during 1955.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

During the year no case of poliomyelitis was notified in the Rural District. The cause of this disease is known—a virus, i.e. a very small germ indeed. What is still in doubt are the factors which start off its spread. There is, however, strong evidence that the germs are spread from the bowel. The moral, therefore, is scrupulous personal hygiene, particularly hand washing after use of the toilet and before

meals and careful kitchen hygiene and food handling, and although the fly is not specifically incriminated, vigorous anti-fly campaigns.

### Other Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet fever—11 cases, and acute primary pneumonia—26 cases, were the only other infectious diseases in which double figures were reached. Fortunately, Scarlet Fever is nowadays not a serious illness, in fact most cases being extremely mild. With regard to the pneumonia, older age groups are affected, cases being distributed fairly evenly over the year, 6, 3, 9 and 8 in the respective quarters.

No cases of diphtheria, ophthalmia neonatorum, the bowel infections or food poisoning were notified. There was, however, a minor outbreak of suspected food poisoning at one of the schools in this District involving 26 children. The main symptom was vomiting coming on 8-12 hours after ingestion of a midday meal. Other symptoms included abdominal pain, loose motions, headache and sore throat. All cases were mild and recovered rapidly, there being no secondary cases. The outbreak was immediately investigated. The cause was not firmly established, but presumptive evidence indicated a coagulase positive staphylococcus aureus.

Food poisoning is a preventable disease and the keynote to prevention lies in the handling of food. Two main guiding principles are firstly, no person suffering from any gastro-intestinal disease, nasal discharges, cuts and sores on the hands or fingers, should be employed in food preparation and secondly, once a dish has been prepared and is stored for subsequent re-heating, it should be stored in as cool a place as possible and the re-heating should be thorough.

### Tuberculosis.

During the year 1954, 11 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurring in the District were added to the Register.

The age and sex distribution of these cases is :—

Age	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-9 ..	—	—	—	1
10-19 ..	—	1	—	—
20-29 ..	2	4	1	—
30-39 ..	—	—	—	—
40 and over ..	4	—	—	—
	11		2	

One of these cases was transferred out of the District during the year.

Seven cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases were transferred into the District. Three cases notified in previous years were transferred out.

There was one death from respiratory tuberculosis and three of non-respiratory tuberculosis recorded during the year.

From the 3rd to the 14th May the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visited the District. Considerable propaganda support was given to the unit, which included sending out of leaflets to all houses in the District. All parish councils were also contacted and posters distributed. Cinema slides were shown the week before and during the first week of the campaign.

The result of the campaign is summarised in the following tables :

#### PART I

	M.	F.	Total
Number examined on miniature films ..	1070	1361	2431
Number passed on miniature films ..	930	1237	2167
Number classified on miniature films ..	64	66	130
Number recalled for large films ..	76	58	134
Number not attending for large films ..	3	—	3
Number passed on large films ..	33	32	65
Number of abnormal cases found ..	104	92	196

#### PART II

*Abnormal cases—196 or 8·1%*

Non tuberculous .. .. .. ..	76	72	148
Tuberculous lesions not requiring treatment .. .. .. ..	26	18	44
Active tuberculosis .. .. .. ..	2	2	4=0·16%

Only four individuals showed active lesions requiring treatment. This figure gives an incidence of 1·6/1,000 which compares favourably with the all over incidence of 3·25 in 1953.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year no case of diphtheria was notified in the Rural District, thus eight years have now passed without any case of diphtheria occurring. In April an immunisation propaganda campaign was instituted in which posters, cinema slides and press notices were used. Throughout the year an intensive immunisation programme was conducted. The number of children who received protection during the year was 1779, as indicated in Table I, which shows the age groups protected :—

(I) Number of children who completed a course of primary immunisation				Number of Children who were given a reinforcing injection	
Under 1	1& over	2& over	5-14	Up to 9	10-14
155	136	65	170	931	322
526				1253	

To assess the extent to which children in this area have been protected the proportion of children of each age who have received at some time or other a course of injections against diphtheria as well as

the ages at which the course was received must be taken into consideration. Therefore, the immunisation state is shown in the following table by (a) age at inoculation and by (b) age attained.

(II) Number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date, i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1940

Age at 31.12.54, i.e. born in year	Under 1 1954	1-4 53-50	5-9 49-45	10-14 44-40	Age not recorded	Total under 15 yrs.
Last complete course of injections 1950-54	40	907	1747	1321	52	4067
1949 or earlier ..	—	—	692	1463	151	2306
Totals	40	907	2439	2784	203	6373

To be fully protected against diphtheria all babies who have reached one year old should have had their first course of protective injections. From the period 1st June, 1953, to 30th May, 1954, 364 babies attained the age of one year but of these only 150 or 41% had received injections. Taking the last two years into consideration (i.e. 1.6.52 to 30.5.54) there are 799 babies who have at least attained one year old, of these 409 or 51% have been protected. This is the age when it is vital to have infants protected and at least 75% of babies under one should be immunised. This is the minimum figure the Ministry suggest will prevent an outbreak of diphtheria occurring and it is hoped by increased personal propaganda to improve on the figure of 41% by next year.

Having received the initial course of two injections by at least the sixth month of age, immunity to the disease remains at a fairly high level for several years. On entering school one boosting or reinforcing injection should be given and finally a reinforcing injection at ten years old will protect the majority of children throughout their school life.

The results of the combined efforts of all concerned with the prevention of diphtheria and the extensive immunisation campaigns carried out in this country since the War have resulted in a very great decrease in the incidence of this disease as is borne out by the table given below and it is reasonable to hope that we shall see the disappearance of diphtheria from the land, but this is dependent on having as high a percentage of children immunised as possible and the continuation of unrelenting efforts of all even remotely concerned with the Public Health.

## Incidence and Mortality—England and Wales 1944-54.

Year	Deaths	Corrected Notifications
1944	934	23,199
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	24	240
1954	9*	182*

\* Provisional

Of these nine deaths, two were of cases in which the acute episode of the disease occurred more than one year before death.

## Vaccination.

District Councils have no responsibilities in the matter of vaccination. It is a responsibility of the County Council who keep records, etc., and who make payment to general practitioners for the return of the vaccination forms. However, the vaccination state of the community is one of concern to all. The higher the immunity state of the community, the less likelihood will there be of disaster should smallpox invade the District.

Vaccination is not compulsory. Since the introduction of the National Health Service Act, vaccination of children has been left to the good sense of the parents and the measure of success this simple procedure has had in banishing smallpox from the country should convince all of the efficacy of the procedure.

The percentage of babies vaccinated in the Rural District in 1954 under twelve months of age, expressed as a percentage of babies born in 1954, is 86.1%.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)

No action was required under Section 47 of the Act regarding the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

## PROVISION OF GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA Devolution of Health Functions.

On the 1st April, 1953, there came into operation a scheme of devolution of Health functions to existing District Health Sub-Committees. In this area, the No. 7 (Alton) District Health Sub-Committee comprises the areas of the Alton Rural District Council and Urban District Council, to which sub-committee both Councils nominate members. Among the resolutions made were :

“ In order to make the fullest possible use of local knowledge and

to widen interest there be devolved upon the District Health Sub-Committees as far as possible responsibility for the supervision of the Health Services in the area; in particular services operating under Section 22 (Care of Mothers and young Children), Section 24 (Health Visiting), Section 26 (Vaccination) and Section 28 (Prevention of illness, care and after care, so far as that section does not relate to tuberculosis) of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as amended, provided that those functions are exercised in such a way as to conform with the existing scheme."

### Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Service is conducted by the County Council who supply monthly details of journeys to the Public Health Committee. The ambulances for the area are stationed at Alton.

Applications for the use of ambulances are made to :

The Aldershot Ambulance Station,  
(Telephone: Aldershot 2244)

### Child Welfare.

Child Welfare Centres are situated throughout the District at the following places and on the dates and times given. These centres are for the attendance of mothers and babies, and children under five. Activities at the clinics, at which a doctor and nurse attend, include advice on feeding and child management, immunisation, weighing and the distribution of welfare foods and certain medicaments.

Centres for children under the age of 5 years are available as follows :—

CENTRE	ADDRESS	Day of Clinic (per month)	Time p.m.
Alton	Assembly Rooms	Every Tuesday	2-4
Bentley	Memorial Hall	3rd Wednesday	2-4
Binsted	Institute	4th Wednesday	2-4
Bordon	Military Welfare Centre	1st & 3rd Thursdays	2.45-4
Froyle	Methodist Hall	1st Wednesday	2-4
Grayshott	Village Hall	First Friday	2-4
Headley	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Fridays	2-4
Kingsley	Cadet Hut	3rd Friday	2-4
Longmoor	Military Welfare Centre	2nd & 4th Mondays	2-4
Oakhanger	Village Hall	3rd Friday	3-4
Selborne	Village Hall	2nd Wednesday	2-4
Whitehill	Men's Club	2nd and 4th Thursdays	2-4

### National Welfare Foods.

Subsequent to the closure of the local offices of the Ministry of Food and the end of food rationing, arrangements were made for the distribution of welfare foods in the District at the centres and times shown over :—

## DISTRIBUTION CENTRES IN ALTON RURAL DISTRICT

<i>Centre</i>		<i>Time of Opening</i>
BENTLEY	Bentley Post Office, London Road.	Business hours.
BENTLEY	Child Welfare Centre, Memorial Hall.	3rd Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
BINSTED	Child Welfare Centre, The Institute.	4th Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
BORDON	Child Welfare Centre, Medical Inspection Room, The Barracks.	Every Thursday from 2 p.m.
EAST TISTED	Mr. Budd, The Stores.	Business hours.
FOUR MARKS	Mr. Tomlinson, The Post Office.	Business hours.
FROYLE	Child Welfare Centre, Methodist Church School.	1st Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
GRAYSHOTT	Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	1st Friday in month from 2.30 p.m.
HEADLEY	Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	2nd and 4th Fridays in the month from 2 p.m.
KINGSLEY	Child Welfare Centre, Cadet Hut.	3rd Friday in the month 2 p.m. to 2.45 p.m.
LASHAM	Mrs. Pearce, The Post Office.	Business hours.
LINDFORD	Mr. Pears, Cross Road Store.	Business hours.
LONGMOOR	Child Welfare Centre, Medical Inspection Room, The Barracks.	2nd and 4th Mondays in the month from 2.30 p.m.
MEDSTEAD	Women's Institute.	Every Monday 2.30 to 4 p.m.
OAKHANGER	Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	3rd Friday in the month 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
ROPLEY	Mrs. Knowles, Coffee Rooms.	1st Friday in month 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
SELBORNE	Child Welfare Centre, Village Hall.	2nd Wednesday in month from 2 p.m.
WHITEHILL	Child Welfare Centre, Men's Club.	2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month from 2 p.m.
WIELD	Mrs. Preston, Pond Cottage.	By arrangement.

### **Health Visiting.**

The following are the Health Visitors and the areas which they serve :—

NAME	ADDRESS	DISTRICT
Mrs. J. E. Morrow	13 Whitedown, Alton.	Alton, Holybourne, Chawton, Farringdon.
Miss A. M. Knapp	161a London Road, Holybourne.	Bentley, Froyle, Rowledge, Blackmoor, Binsted, Worldham, Headley, Kingsley & Whitehill (part).
Miss V. Gawthorp	No. 1 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon.	East Tisted, Grayshott.
Miss. M. Saville	No. 2 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon.	Whitehill (part) & Bordon Camp (civil and military).
Miss E. M. May	No. 2 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon.	Longmoor, Selborne, Newton Valance.

Miss B. B. Reynolds	Adbeji, Hattingley Road Medstead.	Ropley, Four Marks, Bent- worth, Wield, West Tisted.
Miss D. McKenzie	c/o Hampshire County Council Health Centre, Brambly Grange, Basingstoke.	Lasham, Shalden.

### **Day Nursery.**

A day nursery was provided during the year at the Manor House, Alton, which provides accommodation for children aged 1½—5. The children are admitted to the nursery on priority grounds and throughout the year the nursery was well used.

### **Home Help Service.**

A scheme of domestic help is available. The helpers are experienced women carefully chosen for their suitability for the work. They will run the home carefully, their job being to take over the housewife's work.

Home Helps are available for the following types of cases:—when the housewife is sick or has to have an operation ; when a new baby is expected ; when several members of a household are ill at one time ; and to give help to the elderly and infirm.

Application for a Home Help, accompanied by a medical certificate, should be made to the District Organiser. The charge depends on the hours worked and the income of the family after certain allowances have been made.

Division VI includes the Rural District of Alton and the Divisional Organiser now has her office at the Town Hall, Petersfield (Telephone—Petersfield 771/773), to whom application should be made for a Home Help.

### **Laboratory Facilities.**

Bacteriological examinations of clinical matter (sputum, swabs, etc.) and of water, milk and foodstuffs are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

Chemical analyses of water, sewage, milk and other samples are carried out by arrangement with the Public Analyst, Portsmouth.

Thanks are expressed to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service and the Public Analyst, Portsmouth, for their ready advice and assistance granted during the year.

## Midwifery and Home Nursing.

These services are administered as follows :—

DISTRICT SERVED	NURSE	SERVICE GIVEN
Alton Chawton Farringdon E. & W. Worldham	Miss D. R. HULL, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, 4 Edward Road, Alton. (Telephone Alton 2379)	Midwifery and general nursing
Alton	Mrs. M. COOMBES, S.R.N., Hillcrest, Windmill Hill, Alton. (Telephone Alton 3141)	General nursing only
Bentley Froyle Binsted	Miss M. POOLE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. 10 Babs Field, Bentley (Telephone Bentley 3158) (Appointed 23-10-54)	Midwifery and general nursing
Grayshott Headley Down Headley Common Barford, Hearn Bramshott Chase	Miss M. A. CUFF, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, Nurses Cottage, School Road, Grayshott (Telephone Hindhead 409)	ditto
Headley Kingsley Arford Lindford Deadwater Standford Wishanger	Miss E. M. COOK, S.R.N., S.C.M., 57 Church Fields, Headley (Telephone Headley Down 2158)	ditto
Medstead Bentworth Shalden Lasham Four Marks (part) Wield	Mrs. J. KERCER, S.R.N. 3 Green Stile, Medstead (Telephone Medstead 2100)	ditto
Ropley East Tisted West Tisted Four Marks (part)	Miss J. A. JOHNSON, S.C.M., GAS/AIR, Kingsley, Church Lane, Ropley (Telephone Ropley 3141)	ditto
Selborne Empshott Hartley Mauditt Newton Valence Oakhanger Blackmoor Longmoor	Miss E. M. MAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Temporary address— No. 2 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon Camp, Bordon (Telephone Bordon 292) (Appointed 4-10-54)	ditto and Health Visitor
Whitehill Bordon Hollywater	Miss M. SAVILLE, S.R.N., S.C.M., GAS/AIR, H.V. Cert. No. 2 Bungalow, Infant Welfare Centre, Bordon Camp, Bordon (Telephone Bordon 292) (Appointed 4-10-54)	ditto

Qualifications : S.R.N.—State Registered Nurse  
S.C.M.—State Certified Midwife  
Q.N.—Queens Nurse  
GAS/AIR—Gas and air analgesia certificate  
H.V. Cert.—Health Visitor's Certificate

### **Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Clinics were held every Thursday at Alton General Hospital and at the Ante-natal Clinic, Whitehill.

The Medical Officers attending the Alton Clinics at the end of the year —

1st Thursday	Dr. W. S. Larcombe
2nd Thursday	Dr. T. C. Wilson
3rd Thursday	Dr. Helen E. Larcombe
4th Thursday	Mr. A. F. Goode.

The Whitehill Ante-natal Clinic closed on 5-4-54. Ante-natal examinations were thereafter held in the general practitioners' surgeries.

### **School Health Services.**

Clinics are held as follows :

Orthopaedic	Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton.
Ear, nose and throat	Alton General Hospital.
Dental	At Schools.
Ophthalmic and orthoptic	Alton General Hospital.
Child guidance	Health Centre, Winchester.
Speech therapy	Leightons, 8, High Street, Alton.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Clinics are held at Aldershot, Basingstoke and Winchester, whilst sanatoria are available at Bishopstoke, Chandlers Ford, Liphook and Alton, The Henry Gauvain Hospital and Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital.

### **Venereal Diseases.**

Clinics are held at Aldershot and Winchester.

### **Area Welfare Officer.**

The Area Welfare Officer is Mr. C. Hemsley, whose office is at Manor Park House, Aldershot, Telephone: Aldershot 2341). His assistant is Mr. P. H. Dean, County Council Health Centre, Brambly Grange, Basingstoke, Telephone : Basingstoke 934.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND  
BUILDING SURVEYOR  
1954

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

**Water Supply.**

There are piped main supplies in every parish of the district.

Extensions of main supplies were completed during the year in the Parishes of Binsted (two), Whitehill (two), Headley, Grayshott and West Tisted.

These supplies from the Wey Valley Water Co. and the Mid Wessex Water Co., have been satisfactory throughout the year, both in regard to quality and quantity.

Samples for analysis are regularly taken by the Water Undertakers themselves.

Other domestic supplies in the district are from wells, springs and underground rain water storage tanks, from which samples for analysis were taken during the year as follows :

For bacteriological analysis	—	9
Results—Satisfactory	—	5
Unsatisfactory	—	4

Where samples were found unsatisfactory appropriate action was taken to secure satisfactory supplies.

The following indicates the number of properties and the population served by main water in each parish :—

Parish	Area, in acres	No. of houses at 31-12- 54	No. of houses supplied			Population supplied (estimated)		
			Direct	By stand pipe	Total	Direct	By stand pipe	Total
Bentley ..	2483	265	263	—	263	770	—	770
Bentworth ..	3763	192	166	—	166	530	—	530
Binsted ..	7799	474	319	—	319	1280	—	1280
Chawton ..	2194	147	92	—	92	300	—	300
East Tisted ..	2621	68	38	—	38	110	—	110
Farringdon ..	2105	179	142	—	142	355	—	355
Four Marks ..	1502	429	303	—	303	865	—	865
Froyle ..	4641	208	195	—	195	605	—	605
Grayshott ..	901	461	458	—	458	1410	—	1410
Headley ..	4771	883	715	—	715	2220	—	2220
Kingsley ..	1540	144	102	—	102	290	—	290
Lasham ..	1797	53	49	—	49	170	—	170
Medstead ..	2809	442	254	—	254	760	—	760
Newton Valence ..	2069	89	36	—	36	95	—	95
Ropley ..	3704	426	222	—	222	610	—	610
Selborne ..	4830	382	288	—	288	930	—	930
Shalden ..	2160	115	98	—	98	305	—	305
West Tisted ..	2354	65	31	—	31	85	—	85
Whitehill ..	5509	979	757	—	757	2640	—	2640
Wield ..	2104	68	55	—	55	175	—	175
Worldham ..	3868	121	101	—	101	325	—	325
Totals ..	65526	6190	4684	—	4684	14830	—	14830

### Drainage.

There was a large increase in the number of private properties connected to the Council's sewers during the year.

In Whitehill area 65 new connections were made making a total of 160 private connections in all. In addition, all the Council's 272 properties are connected.

In the Holt Pound area, 33 private connections were made as sewer construction proceeded.

In addition to the number of properties installing domestic drainage with connection to the Council's sewers, there was an increase in the number of septic tank installations.

## HOUSING ACTS.

### HOUSING CONSOLIDATED REGULATIONS, 1925 (Article 31)

- Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation. (Slum clearance survey.) .. . . . . . . . .

795

2. Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. . . . .	Nil.
3. Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to :—	
(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works. . . . .	Nil.
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders. . . . .	58
4. Number of notices served requiring the execution of works. . . . .	Nil.
5. Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices. . . . .	7
6. Number of demolition or closing orders made. . . . .	20
7. Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted. . . . .	4
8. Number of houses demolished. . . . .	7

In addition to the above, 34 houses were suitably repaired as a result of action under the Public Health Act, 1936.

### RURAL HOUSING

The Housing Acts 1949–54 contain provisions for Local Authorities to make grants for the improvement or adaptation of private dwellings, provided that the dwellings after improvement comply with specified conditions.

During the year 23 formal applications in respect of 38 properties were approved for grant, and schemes in respect of 3 properties completed.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Government control of slaughterhouses was discontinued on 29.6.54 and private slaughtering recommenced on 2.7.54.

There are no private slaughterhouses in the district but the Alton Rural and Urban District Councils combined to provide a public slaughterhouse which came into use on 5.7.54.

Regular slaughtering has taken place at this public slaughterhouse, the number of animals killed from 5th July to 31st December being as follows :—

Cattle . . . . .	506	Total 2,331
Pigs . . . . .	1,528	
Sheep . . . . .	148	
Calves . . . . .	149	

All animals slaughtered were inspected by Sanitary Inspectors of the Alton Urban and Rural District Councils, working alternate weeks.

## Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

### Deadweight Certification—Pigs.

As agents for the Ministry of Food, the Sanitary Inspectors acted as certifying officers at the Joint Public Slaughterhouse and all pigs entered under the scheme were classified, weighed and marked and payment certificates were prepared in accordance with official instructions.

The following foodstuffs were inspected in shops and stores and surrendered for condemnation :—

Butchers Meat .. .	369 lbs.
Rice .. .	50 lbs.
Cheese .. .	1½ lbs.
Vegetables .. .	42 tins
Fruit .. .	50 „
Meat .. .	71 „
Milk .. .	31 „
Fish .. .	3 „
Cream .. .	2 „

## Food Premises.

The number of food premises in the area are as follows :—

Licensed victuallers' houses and clubs ..	56
Bakehouses .. .	4
General stores .. .	58
Greengrocers .. .	3
Confectioners .. .	9
Cafes .. .	18
Wholesale grocers' warehouses .. .	3
Butchers .. .	11
Chemists .. .	2
Hotel .. .	1
Registered dairies .. .	2
Total .. .	167

Thirty-three food premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Routine inspections of food premises are carried out and it was necessary to take informal action regarding cleanliness in 2 cases.

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the district.

No clean food organisation exists in the district.

## **Adulteration.**

Sampling of food for adulteration is carried out by the Hants County Council and I am indebted to Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, for the following information which he has supplied :—

Articles	No. of samples		
	Genuine	Unsatisfactory	—
Butter and other fats ..	3	—	—
Drugs .. ..	2	—	—
Milk .. ..	65	—	—
Meat products .. ..	6	—	—
Spirits .. ..	5	—	—
Other foods .. ..	11	—	—
	—		
Total	92	—	—
	—		

The 65 samples of milk contained an average of 3·91% milk fats and 8·85% solids not fat.

## **Milk.**

All milk sold in the district is now pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. The following shows the number of designated milk licences granted during the year :—

### Pasteurised milk :—

Pasteurised licences ..	..	..	0
Dealers' licences ..	..	..	10
Supplementary licences ..	..	..	6

### Sterilised milk :—

Sterilisers' licences ..	..	..	0
Supplementary licences ..	..	..	1

### Tuberculin tested milk :—

Dealers' licences ..	..	..	4
Supplementary licences ..	..	..	6

Twenty-five samples of milk were taken and submitted for examination by the Analyst.

## **MOVEABLE DWELLINGS**

During the year 11 licences were issued for moveable dwellings, making a total number of 84 licences in force at the end of the year.

Visits were made to ensure that maintenance of dwellings and sites was in a sanitary condition.

## HOP PICKERS ACCOMMODATION

Routine attention was given during the season to this type of accommodation.

There are in all 16 hop growers in 5 different parishes, providing separate huddled encampments, with, in addition, 7 tented encampments for travellers. These were all inspected before, during and after occupation.

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

The Rodent Operator during the year carried out general inspections and treatments throughout the district as follows :—

**TYPE OF PROPERTY**

	(a) Council	(b) Dwelling Houses	(c) Agri- cultural (Farms only).	(d) Other Premises including Business	(e) Total
1. Total number of properties in district.	10	5820	370	300	6500
2. Number of properties inspected during year.	10	42	370	29	451
3. Number of properties found to be infested.	6	32	96	12	146
4. Number of infested properties treated.	6	32	4	3	45

#### **Notes :—**

- (i) Council houses are included in figures under column (b).
- (ii) The above figures relate to the number of properties inspected and treated and not to the number of inspections or visits made.
- (iii) Disinfestations on properties not treated by Local Authority are carried out by occupiers upon advice from the Rodent Operator or by contract with commercial undertakings.

#### **Number of visits made by Rodent Operator.**

Council properties	46	Total 1037
Dwelling houses	42	
Agricultural	918	
Business premises	29	
Schools	2	

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

The following particulars are those prescribed on the administration of the above Act.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :—

Premises	Number on register	Number of inspections	Number of written notices
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. . . .	12	7	Nil
2. Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. . . .	47	29	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) .. . . .	60	120	Nil

Cases in which defects were found :—3.

Sanitary conveniences defective—3 found and remedied.

## BUILDING BYELAWS & PLANNING

The total number of plans deposited with the Council during the year was as follows :

1. New dwellings .. . . .	..	52
2. Alterations and additions to existing dwellings ..	..	74
3. Conversions and adaptations to form dwellings ..	..	1
4. Domestic garages .. . . .	..	37
5. Domestic drainage .. . . .	..	162
6. Farm and other buildings .. . . .	..	22
7. Sheds and stores .. . . .	..	7
8. Planning only .. . . .	..	168
Total .. . . .	..	523

The number of new dwellings erected by private enterprise during the year was 52.

There are 31 temporary building licences in force (none issued during the year). These are all regularly inspected.

## PETROLEUM ACTS.

86 licences were issued during the year for the storage of petroleum spirit.

All new installations were inspected and routine visits made of others.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer (Mr. John Blackwell, M.I. Mun. E., Chartered Municipal Engineer) for the following information as regards Local Authority housing, sewerage and public cleansing.

(Public cleansing was transferred to the Engineer's Dept. from the Public Health Dept., during the year.)

## LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING

The number of dwellings provided by the Council as at 31st December, 1954, were as follows :—

Pre-war dwellings .. .. ..	62
Post war temporary bungalows ..	116
Post war permanent dwellings ..	590

During the year 1954, 22 new permanent Council houses were completed and another 34 were under contract. A further 50 were expected to be commenced early in 1955.

Fresh designs for flats and terraced houses have been prepared.

## SEWERAGE

### Bentley.

Part of the parish of Bentley is sewered, the effluent being treated by broad land irrigation.

### Whitehill.

The scheme for the seweraging of the greater part of the Parish of Whitehill with discharge into treatment works at Lindford was completed during the year. These works also receive the sewage from Bordon Camp.

Sewage was received and treated at Bordon Sewage Disposal Works as follows :—

Month	Gallons
January	9,053,000
February	9,239,000
March	8,758,000
April	8,910,000
May	8,811,000
June	9,138,000
July	10,527,000
August	9,605,000
September	9,880,000
October	9,667,000
November	7,308,000
December	9,220,000

### Holt Pound.

Work continued during the year on the sewerage scheme for the Holt Pound area of the Parish of Binsted.

## **Headley, and Grayshott, etc.**

Schemes for the sewerage of the Parishes of Headley and Grayshott have been approved.

## **General.**

The larger Council Housing Estates where sewers are not available are provided with estate treatment works.

# **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

## **Refuse Collection.**

A general scheme of full refuse collection and salvage is in operation throughout the district.

Weekly collections are made in the Parishes of Grayshott and Whitehill, the remainder of the district being served fortnightly. The Council also undertake a once weekly collection from the Military married quarters in Bordon and Longmoor Camps. In addition, during the year collections were extended to include unit refuse from incinerators in the Military camps approximating 80 cubic yards per week.

The Council's 4 refuse vehicles averaged a total of 2,848 miles per month collecting an average per month of 1,583 cubic yards of refuse.

## **Salvage.**

Salvage of waste paper realised a total of 22 tons 1 cwt. 1 qtr.

## **Refuse Disposal.**

Disposal of refuse is by means of controlled tipping at various tips throughout the district. The main tip is on Council land at Bordon. One pit was sealed off and discontinued.

## **Cesspool Emptying.**

Cesspools and septic tanks were emptied throughout the district on application as follows :—

Private properties .. .	1,094 loads
Council properties .. .	420 ,,
Total	1,514 loads

## **Nightsoil Collection.**

Collections are made in defined areas of the various parishes, some twice weekly and some once weekly.

Extensions were made during the year in Whitehill (Hollywater), Four Marks, West Tisted and Ropley.

## **Public Conveniences.**

The public conveniences at Bordon were disconnected from the Military water supply and connected to the main supply of the Wey

Valley Water Co. The increased pressure obtained alleviated troubles experienced from drain stoppages.

Commencement was made during the year on the construction of new public conveniences at Grayshott.

**Note.**

All public cleansing work is carried out by the Council's own vehicles and staff.

RANDALL MARTIN,

*Medical Officer of Health,  
Alton Rural District Council.*



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Alton, Hampshire.